

14 Nov 05

TF Eagle Friends and Family,

It is the second week on the ground in Pakistan and things are running very smoothly. We are fully integrated into the disaster relief operations by leading the way in the movement of supplies to those who need them. Everyone is working hard to ensure that the mission continues to happen as we are working against the deadline of winter. Morale remains high, and we continue to improve our living and working conditions.

We are now a 530 man (and growing) task force made up of US Army, Air Force, and Navy personnel, as well a UK contingent and a new addition; the Aussies. The jabs across the hangar about rugby and cricket have already started. This week we bid a fond farewell to Officers, Petty Officers, and Sailors of HM-15 as they returned to their station in Bahrain. The international flavor of the operation is really coming home to us now. Yesterday, we launched a mission with an UK Chinook and crew, commanded by an US Task Force, to deliver Iranian made tents to the Pakistani victims of the earthquake. Everyday we return to our temporary "home" knowing that we made a difference.

Our Living Support Area continues to improve everyday. We now have electricity and lights in all of the tents. Our second kitchen unit and the refrigerated storage van are here. We have the all the modifications and plumbing for the showers and bathrooms completed and installed. We still have to monitor water usage, but that's the norm in an environment like this. The Brits are continuing their darts tourneys, and pub trivia evenings; and the Aussies are not to be outdone and talking about putting together rugby matches. We are trying to organize a Thanksgiving Day Football game as well. Additionally we have gained a couple more AFN Decoders, and some more internet computers which should be up and running soon.

Everyday we make a significant impact on the lives of thousands of Pakistanis who desperately need our help. We are all in good health and operations are going really well.

Very Respectfully
COL Bob Johnson
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